

SPORTS



Championship of sensations

The first four rounds of the 50th world and 61st European ice-hockey championship in Prague were so lavish with sensations as to pass for a whole championship. Only the USSR, the world champions travelled this part of the hockey marathon, which finishes on May 3, without losses. It snatched eight points in four games. They are followed by Canada, Czechoslovakia and the USA with six points each; Sweden — four and Finland — two. West Germany and the GDR have no points.

The USA provided the main sensation. Though they lost 1-11 to the USSR at the start, they went on to outplay the teams considered hot favourites prior to the championship. The USA beat the Canada Cup finalists, Sweden and Canada, 4-3 each and the hosts, Czechoslovakia, 3-1.

After the game against Sweden, the US coach Dave Peterson said that his experienced players

from NHL clubs played well and that their performance inspired the younger players from university clubs. Despite the initial defeat, he said, the USSR coach Viktor Tikhonov predicted our success in the future and we tried to match his words with play.

Specialists opine that the US team's main triumph card is their speed.

Sweden are obviously below standard, and this was especially evident in the game with traditional opponents, Finland, which the former lost 0-5. But the Swedes are trying to make up for their defeat by thrashing the GDR 11-0.

The first stage of the championship consists of seven rounds, the last to be played on April 26 and 27. This will determine the European champions and the top four teams to vie for the world title from April 29. The teams playing 5th-8th will play from April 28 for a place in the top division.

Yelena Kokonova's good start

Yelena Kokonova, coached by Aina-Aia trainer Vladimir Zharkov, has long-jumped 712 cm at a national athletic meet in Tashkent, the world's best achievement at the start of the new season.

World ex-record holder Tamara Bykova scaled 198 cm.

Achievement of Portuguese marathoner

30-year-old Olympic champion Carlos Lopes of Portugal won the international Rotterdam marathon with a new world record of 2 hr 7 min 11 sec. Lopes, who missed the world marathon cup in Hiroshima, improved by nearly a minute the record set in October 1984 by Steve Jones of Britain (2:08:05).

Peace Race: on courses of four countries

The start of the 38th Peace Race will be given at 10 a.m. on May 8 at the monument to Soviet tankman in Prague. This was reported at a press conference in Prague attended by organizers of the popular road race — representatives of the editorial offices

of "Rude právo" (Czechoslovakia), "Trybuna Ludu" (Poland), "Neues Deutschland" (GDR), and "Pravda" (USSR). For the first time in the history of the race its course will pass through Soviet territory, too.



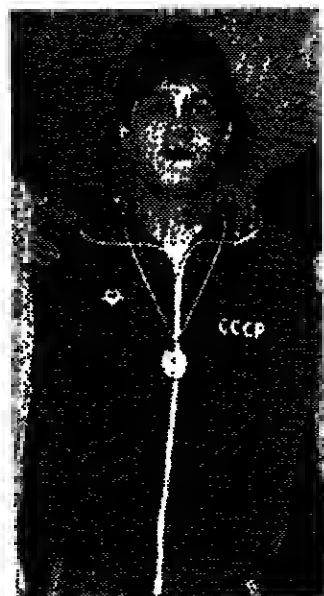
Photo by Boris Kuznetsov

Introducing a champion

'GOLDEN' DIVES

20-year-old Nadezhda Alyautdinov from Kiev has won the 3 m springboard at the European diving cup in the Zurich Orlion swimming pool, the main surprise of the competition. Making his debut in such a big tournament he outstripped second-placed 1983 European champion Pyotr Georgiyev of Bulgaria by nearly 40 points. Albin Kilat of West Germany came third.

He first came to a swimming pool at the age of eight—he simply was interested in swimming, acrobatics and gymnastics, like all boys are. He soon developed a passion for that, en-



Nadezhda Alyautdinov in mid-air.

couraged by the example of his elder brother who went in for diving. Nadezhda was attracted by the complexity of the sport and started looking for something new for himself. Naturally, there were failures. His first great win was at the annual national "Komsomolskaya Pravda" tournament, after which he was invited to the national team — and he rose up to the occasion.

He thus explains his success: I did not want to be inferior to my brother, who is a Master of Sport.

Apart from sport he likes drawing and reading and is now preparing to enter a Physical Training Institute.

Valery LOBANOV

Alpine season impresses visitors

Drawing to a close in the USSR is the winter sports Alpine season, which also enjoys much popularity with foreign climbers and skiers. Over the past decade nearly 4,600 visitors from 20 countries travelled to the USSR for the purpose. Their impressions of the stay in the Pamirs, the Caucasus and the Altai vary considerably but they normally stress the hosts' hospitality and gentleness.

Thus, sharing his impressions Americas Jin Warden from Wilmington noted the hospitality accorded him and his friends by the organizers of their stay in the mountains. A group of Spaniards from Alicante were struck by the kind-heartedness of Soviet people.

Director of the International Alpine Camps of the USSR Sports Committee Mikhail Monastyrsky told me:

We have good business and friendly contacts with climbers from many countries, especially

ly the USA. Every year lots of climbing and travel enthusiasts visit the Caucasus, the Pamirs and the Altai from the USA, while Soviet sportsmen were twice in the USA mektagascents, together with hosts, in the Rocky Mountains and scaling the 6,000 m high McKinley Mount in Alaska.

Recently we made a big business trip to the USA to meet local climbers.

It was useful and very fruitful. We were given a cordial welcome and had many meetings and talks in big hotels with leading climbers, heads of big tourist firms, businessmen, book publishers, coaches, scholars, schoolchildren, and hiking enthusiasts.

We were also received by the big Mountain Travel firm, our long-time and good partner.

This year we expect it to arrange a visit to our country for nearly a hundred US climbers.

Sergol LYUSIN

Success for GDR cyclists

The USSR placed second in the race across Lower Saxony, West Germany, behind the GDR. Uwe Ampler of the GDR was the individual winner.

Circuit de la Sarthe finishes up

Dzhomoloidin Akhmedov from Tashkent won the closing stage of the annual international Circuit de la Sarthe cycling race in France, over 87 kilometres between Le Mans and La Motte in 2 hr 21 min 22 sec.

The overall winner was the 25-year-old Frenchman Pascal Jules, 12 h 12 min 57 sec. Viktor Denisov of the USSR came 34 and 35 seconds behind respectively, placing third and fourth.

Handball news

Spanish Barcelona beat the Soviet Army Club 4-2 in the 27-20 in the second round of the tournament to retain their European Cup title.

CAC won the first game of a week ago in Moscow, 3-2, and the aggregate score of two games was 5-3. In Spainiards were declared winners having netted more goals playing away.

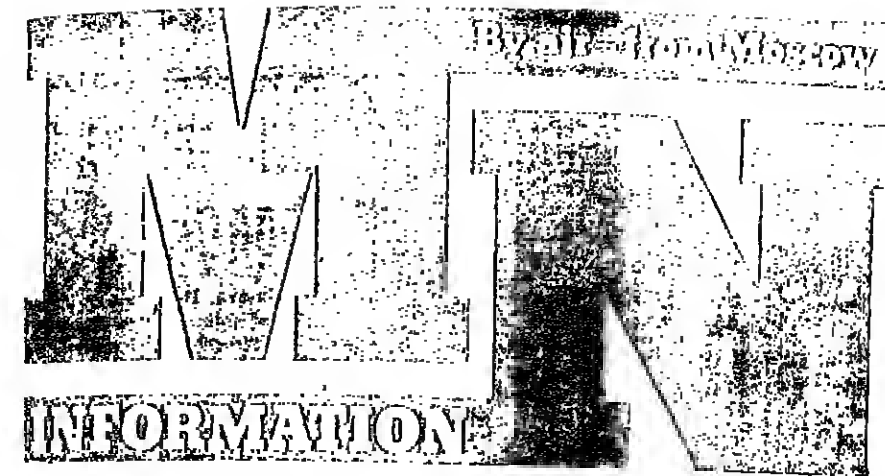
Despite winning the final game of the international Handball Federation Cup at home, the Zaporozhye Institute team lost 2-3 to the Minsk team from the town of Bala Minsk. The Soviet team went down 17-22 in a first game.



This is the mascot of the 1986 world football championship to be held in Mexico. The brave pig is called Pique.



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WARSAW TREATY SUMMIT MEETING

A meeting of top Party and State leaders of the Warsaw Treaty member-states was held in Warsaw on April 20. Taking part were delegations of the People's Republic of Bulgaria led by Todor Zhivkov; the Hungarian People's Republic led by János Kádár; the German Democratic Republic led by Erich Honecker; the Polish People's Republic led by Wojciech Jaruzelski; the Socialist Republic of Romania led by Nicolae Ceausescu and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic led by Gustav Husak.

The Soviet delegation included Mikhail Gorbachev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, head of the delegation; Nikolai Tikhonov, Member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Andrei Gromyko, Member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Vice-Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and USSR Foreign Minister; Sergei Sokolov — Alternate Member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Defence Minister; Konstantin Ruzkov, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The participants discussed the question of extending the duration of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance concluded in Warsaw on May 14, 1955, and signed a protocol on that effect for another 20 years and a subsequent extension for another ten years.

As long as there exists the

NATO military bloc and the threat to European and world peace still persists, the Communiqué of the meeting stresses, the socialist states will bolster their defensive alliance, promote at the same time the struggle for disarmament and peace, for the liquidation of military blocs. Their unanimous decision to extend the duration of the Warsaw Treaty is dictated by the need to ensure effective security of the allied nations and their close interaction in international affairs.

The Warsaw Treaty member-states reaffirmed that they do not strive for military superiority but would not allow military superiority over themselves. They favour parity of forces at the lowest level.

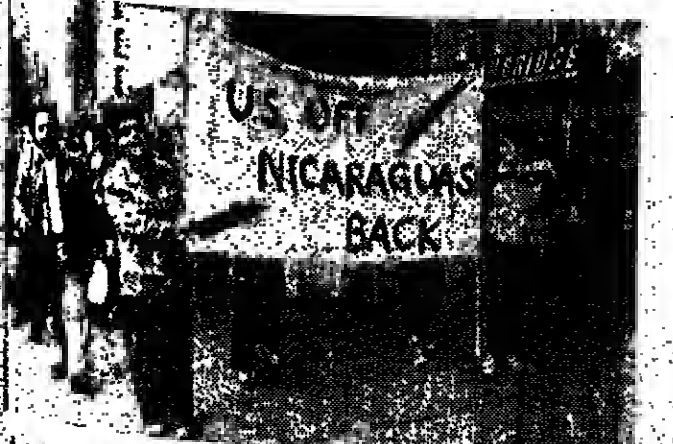
The Communist and Workers' parties, parliaments and governments of the Warsaw Treaty member-states, the Communiqué stresses, will continue the fight to remove the threat of nuclear war from the world, to end the arms race, primarily the race in nuclear arms on earth and prevent it from spreading into outer space, to start disarmament and resume the process of detente and cooperation in international relations. To this end the socialist countries represented at the Summit are prepared to work for a dialogue of peace with other states in the spirit of goodwill and trust and build up a broad international interaction in the interests of universal peace and security.

ORTEGA: FAVOURABLE FACTOR

Managua, Nicaragua President Daniel Ortega called the refusal by the US House of Representatives to meet Ronald Reagan's request for allocations to continue the undeclared war against the republic a "favourable factor" which could help find a settlement to problems in Central America.

The statement published by the Nueva prensa agency condemns Washington's attempts to

foist on the Nicaragua Government talks with the counter-revolutionary Somoza gangsters. There can be no dialogue with them for they are US hirelings, Ortega maintained. He stressed that if the Reagan administration really wanted to show a desire for peace in the region and better relations with Nicaragua it should return to its seat at the negotiating table in Manzanillo.



A mass protest demonstration was recently held in central New York against the American administration's interference in the internal affairs of Central American nations. It was sponsored by the broad coalition, Appeal to Reasonance, which unites several anti-war organizations.

The 27th CPSU Congress

The CPSU Central Committee resolved at its Plenary Meeting that the Party's regular, 27th Congress, will be convened on February 25, 1986. A report entitled "On the convening of the regular, 27th CPSU Congress and the tasks connected with preparations and its carrying out" was delivered at the Plenary Meeting by Mikhail Gorbachev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The Plenary Meeting endorsed the agenda of the Congress. It includes a report of the CPSU Central Committee (to be delivered by Mikhail Gorbachev), a report of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission (to be delivered by Gennady Sizov), the items: "On the New Edition of the CPSU Programme" and "On Changes in the CPSU Rules", a report on guidelines for the economic and social development of the USSR for 1986-1990 and for the period up to 2000 (to be delivered by Nikolai Tikhonov), and elections to the Party's central organs.

(For comments on the subject please turn to pages 2 and 5.)



The Komsomolskaya circular line station is one of the liveliest spots in Moscow, serving three railroad stations at once — the Kazansky, Yaroslavsky and Leningradsky.

Moscow Metro: 60 billion passengers in half a century

It is impossible now to imagine the Soviet capital without its Metro, which accounts for nearly half of the passenger transportation. The first 13 stations were built 50 years ago, with four trains running on lines totalling just over 11 kilometres. Over 50 years the number of stations rose nearly tenfold and the lines now exceed 203 km in length.

In one day Moscow Metro carries nearly seven million passengers, and around 60 million have used it over these 50 years.



The Koltsevskiy line links the city centre with new residential areas.

EXAMPLE OF CONSTRUCTIVE INTERACTION

Mutual understanding and co-operation rather than enmity and strife should serve as guidelines for mankind, stresses a message of greetings by Mikhail Gorbachev to the participants of a meeting at Torgau, GDR. It was held in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the link-up of Soviet and American troops on the Elbe.

In this country people have great respect for veterans of World War II, this heroic battle against the forces of fascist aggression and militarism, the message continues. We bow our heads to those who fell in this struggle. The present generation owes them the opportunity of living and working in peace.

The Soviet people are convinced, Gorbachev notes, that constructive interaction between the former allies and all states in the drive to preserve peace could and should be a powerful factor in improving the international climate.

Those who are now joining their hands on the Elbe are setting a good example of it in this respect, he emphasizes.

Outer space should be developed for peaceful purposes

In the interest of the whole mankind, the Soviet Union opposes militarization of outer space and is working for the attainment of an international accord to ban the use of force both in outer space and from outer space against the earth.

This is stressed in the reply sent by the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet to Professor J.-M. Lagay, President of the World Federation of Scientific Workers (WFSW). He submitted

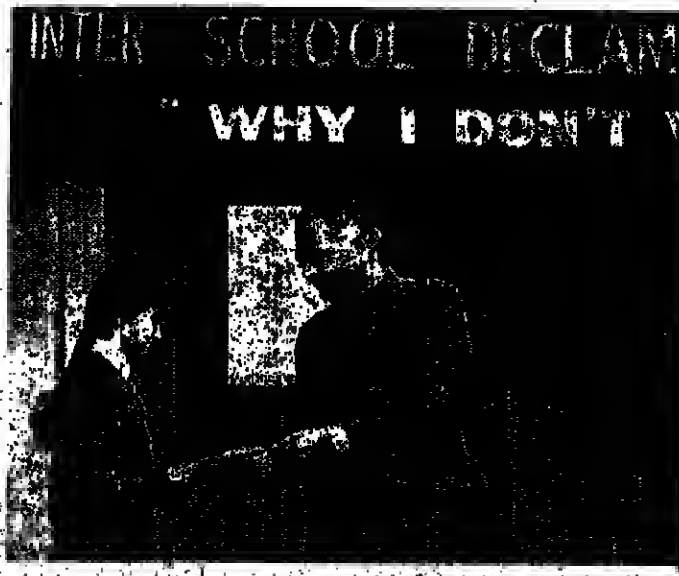
(Continued on page 2)

FACTS and EVENTS

For the first time a Month of Peace is being held in Finland on the initiative of activists of the Finnish-Soviet Society. It is devoted to the 40th anniversary of Victory over Hitlerite fascism.

According to Reuters, Morodom Shabuk has sent a letter to Khieu Samphan, one of the leaders of the so-called "coalition government", requesting that his resignation as "president of democratic Kampuchea" be accepted.

In early March, the highest level of inflation in the EEC countries was registered in Greece — 18.4 per cent, it stood at 9.0 per cent in Italy, 6.4 per cent in France and 6.2 per cent in Ireland. Other figures are: Belgium, 5.8 per cent; Luxembourg, 5.4 per cent; Denmark — 3.4 per cent; West Germany and Holland — 2.3 per cent.



India. One of the events held here in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the historic Victory over fascism was a competition among schoolchildren in the House of Soviet Science and Culture in New Delhi for the best composition on "Why I Don't Want War".
The Indian Minister of State for Education, L. Ch. Pant, presenting awards to the winners.



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'STAR WARS' PROGRAMME: JAPAN TO GET INVOLVED?

Tokyo. A meeting of a tripartite commission uniting conservative political figures, big businessmen, economists and capitalist ideologists from the USA, Japan, Western Europe and Canada favoured the drawing of US allies into the notorious "star wars" programme and boosting American nuclear forces in the Asian-Pacific region.

The final report of the Tokyo meeting, permeated by the cold war spirit, demands direct and immediate involvement of Japan and Western Europe in America's plans to militarize outer space and place of the Pentagon's disposal their entire scientific and technological potential. The document praises the

deployment in Asia and the Pacific of American Tomahawk cruise missiles and F-16 fighter-bombers capable of carrying out nuclear strikes.

The commission lauded the position of Tokyo which, contrary to the formally proclaimed non-nuclear principles, consciously shut its eyes as the entry of American ships with nuclear weapons aboard into Japanese ports. The participants urged the Nakasone cabinet to speed up the bolstering of Japan's armed forces and to repeal restrictions on the growth in military expenditure recently adopted under the pressure of the democratic public.

TENSIONS IN LEBANON CONTINUE

Beirut. Pacing continuing attacks by the patriots (the Israeli occupiers were forced to start another stage of the so-called withdrawal. The Israeli troops are now vacating the areas of Tyre, Jezzine, Rashidya and Westero Bekaa.

Lebanese President Amine Gemayel has resolutely opposed any military presence of the Tel Aviv-created puppet "Army of South Lebanon" in the territories which the occupiers intend to evacuate. Speaking here he stressed that Lebanon insisted on the deployment to the liberated areas of units of the regular Lebanese army. The Lebanese army and internal security forces are already ready to enter these regions once Israeli troops leave.

An explosive situation remains in the major south Lebanese city of Sidon and around it. The cabinet declared decision on the withdrawal from there of formations of the right-wing Christian "Lebanese forces" so far has not been implemented. The extremists supported by Israel have only withdrawn from several populated areas, and as a result only units failed to take up positions designated for them.

SYRIA'S FIRM POSITION

Damascus. Syrian President Hafez al-Assad has supported a fair, lasting and comprehensive



Target-oriented actions by Washington.

Drawing by Konstantin Rybakov

AT GENEVA FORUM

Geneva. The lesson of the world war is that we should have opposed jointly until it started, stressed many participants of the Geneva Disarmament Conference.

The session has continued a discussion of such urgent issues as banning nuclear arms, averting nuclear war, biological and radiological weapons, preventing the arms race in outer space, etc. A significant shift compared with the previous sessions was the creation of a verol auxiliary working body of the conference. At the same time, like in previous years, the negative stand of the USA and its NATO partners still impeded real progress on disarmament.

The conference has adjourned on June 11.

Outer space should be developed for peaceful purposes

[Continued from page 4]

mitted to the President of the USSR Supreme Soviet A. N. Kosygin sponsored research "An Roco to Outer Space Not Prevented". The Federation sent similar reports to 10 other heads of state and governments.

The main objective of the discussions at the report was to come in the Soviet Union's Soviet reply states. On a hardly disagree, for example, with the conclusion that the realization of outer space is a

settlement of the Middle East conflict on the basis of the UN Charter and appropriate resolutions of this organization. Syria, he stressed, receiving Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asian Affairs Richard Murphy, also supports the decisions of the Feb summit of Arab

heads of state and government, calling for an international conference on the Middle East.

He further emphasized that US efforts to solve the Middle East problem at the expense of the interests of the Arab peoples were doomed.

In the run-up to the 40th anniversary of the Great Victory over fascism the Planning Meeting of the CPSU Central Committee aptly recalled the colossal price the Soviet people and other peoples in the anti-fascist coalition paid for this victory. In the light of the grim lessons of history everything should be done to prevent the forces of militarism and aggression from getting the upper hand in international relations. An increasingly important goal now is to improve and enrich, in every way, cooperation of the fraternal socialist nations. Their extremely important historical gains, in the words of Mikhail Gorbachev, is the achievement of military-strategic parity with NATO countries, a parity which should be safeguarded for the sake of peace.

The USSR favours more diverse cooperation with the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, which disavows US interference in the affairs of these nations and its threats to make short shrift of the heroic people of Nicaragua, as was the case in Granada. Solidarity with peaceful defending their freedom and independence remains the principled stand of the policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state.

Confirming its readiness for a broad multilateral, mutually profitable cooperation with Western Europe and Japan and improvement in relations with the USA, the Meeting corroborated adherence to the Leninist principles of peaceful coexistence. Our moral and world outlook are in line with consistent, correct, and civilized international relations based on complete respect for international law. At the same time, it has been clearly stressed time and again that only imperialism's refusal to settle the historic dispute between the two social systems by military means can make it possible to place international relations on the channel of normal cooperation.

This is confirmed, too, by the first stage of the talks in Geneva, where, as the Soviet leader stressed, Washington altogether refuses to discuss the non-spilling of the arms race into outer space simultaneously (as envisaged by a mutual understanding) with the issues of reducing strategic nuclear arms and medium-range nuclear arms in Europe. Expressing the hope that the current US position will be revised, the Soviet side confirms its resolve to press for concrete and mutually acceptable solutions. At Geneva which would not only help end the arms race but achieve progress in disarmament matters.

NUCLEAR THREAT—OUR COMMON ENEMY

New York. Despite the refusal of the administration to participate in celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the allied meeting on the Elbe, over 150 Americans will visit the place.

Among them, says coordinator of the programme "Travel for Peace" A. Swan, are veterans—participants in that historic meeting—as well as members of their families, people of various age groups and occupations, and peace activists from 18 states. Part of the delegation will later visit Moscow, Volgograd, Leningrad and Kiev and will attend the V-Day celebrations on May 8. We hope that our trip will help promote understanding between our peoples and serve the cause of lasting peace.

Such is the opinion of many Americans. Private Peter Marrese was 18 when he landed in Normandy in 1944. He now represents a soldier producing company.

In 1945, he says, I twice met Soviet soldiers—in Germany and Austria. These meetings marked the victory over our common enemy—fascism. Now we have another common enemy—the nuclear threat. We can only defeat it through joint efforts. We should strive to improve the entire complex of relations between the USSR and the USA, including trade and economic relations. Their expansion will surely benefit both sides.

FACTS AND EVENTS

At the Canadian Conference of Chiefs of Police, an influential church organization, has strongly condemned the interventionist policy of the Reagan administration in Central America. In a letter to Canadian foreign minister, Charles Clark, urging the Canadian Government to publicly disavow America's military intervention against Nicaragua, the Canadian Church of Christ expressed its support for the legitimate government of that country with the help of counter-revolutionary forces.

Participants in a just ended meeting in Tripoli of the Permanent Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the Arab League, and the Islamic Conference expressed grave concern over the sharp worsening of the situation in the Middle East. Their statements stressed that the deployment of nuclear weapons in the region of international documents and a need to peace and security worldwide.

USSR FOREIGN MINISTRY PROTESTS TO BRITISH AMBASSADOR

The British Ambassador to the USSR was recently summoned to the Soviet Foreign Ministry, and protested to about the provocative attitude of the British authorities towards some of the employees of the British trade mission in Moscow. The charges of "impermissible" activities were made and were intended to leave the country in a state of emergency. The British authorities are to be promoted relations with the Soviet Union. The Ambassador was told that the responsibility for possible consequences of the actions of the British trade mission in Moscow was to be taken by the British Foreign Ministry. The Soviet Foreign Ministry's protest points out that the attitude of Britain has been repeatedly drawn to the fact that some members of the British Embassy in Moscow did not observe the norms of conduct for foreign representatives in the USSR and engaged in activities incompatible with their status. Such activities are still continuing. In this connection some British representatives were told to leave the USSR while others were warned of their violations of the rules of conduct for foreign representatives in the USSR.

Hope was expressed that the British authorities would refrain in the future from unjustified acts against Soviet representatives. In Britain so as to avoid creating obstacles for the normal development of bilateral relations.



Israeli aggressors are committing atrocities in the occupied Gaza Strip. Punitive units storm villages, make wholesale searches, round-ups and arrests. They burst into homes and shoot at civilians, but repression cannot break the will of the Palestinian people.

● A house destroyed by the invaders in the Al-Dureil Palestinian refugee camp.

Photo Reuters-TASS

30 YEARS AFTER

Bandung. Representatives of over 80 countries of Asia and Africa as well as notional liberation movements have gathered to Indonesia to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Bandung Conference—the first in the history of meetings of heads of independent nations of the two continents.

A jubilee ceremony was held in the House of Independence, to the hall where 30 years ago heads of state and government of 29 nations were in session.

The meeting was addressed by Indonesian President Suharto, who stressed that the spirit of Bandung rallied the countries of

Asia and Africa. The participants confirmed their deep conviction that the principles and ideas embodied in the final document of the 1955 Bandung Conference were still valid, while the spirit of Bandung, which paved the way to the creation and strengthening of the non-aligned movement, was still an inspiring force for liberated nations as well as people fighting for freedom and independence.

Independence and development are inseparable from disarmament and peace—such was the pivotal thesis at the meeting.

Science and technology

AUTOMATIC SCREWDRIVER

This device by Duo Fast, a British firm, considerably increases productivity. A container which takes in 150 screws is connected to a screwdriver with an electric or pneumatic drive. Each of the screws is consecutively fed to the working organ and fastened in the appropriate position. The speed of the screwdriver is rather great: it fixes all the 150 screws in one minute.

STRONG ANTLERS AND FAST FEET

American zoologist Craig Parker wondered why a sheep-antelope needed antlers. Well, he could agree with owners of males: they are needed for mating fights, for protection from beasts of prey. The antlers of a sheep-antelope are thicker and

shorter, and some species haven't got them at all. Parker found out that only those sheep-antelopes have antlers, whose weight in mature age is more than 40 kg. The scientist explains this by the fact that lighter antelopes, escaping from beasts of prey can very well rely on their feet, while the heavier and slower ones are provided by nature with antlers for self-defence.

TILTING DISK CUTTER

Repairing various equipment it sometimes becomes necessary to cut a "window" through the metal. It is for such operations that the firm of Fein has designed a tool fitted with a disk saw. Unlike the traditional steel tool, the disk does not rotate around its axis, but vibrates with a high frequency. It cuts metal easily as if it were cardboard cutting neither a sheet of shavings, nor sparks. The tool weighs less than 1.5 kilograms and is suitable not only for cutting metal, but also for working with organic glass, glass plastic or plywood.

OF INTEREST

Augsburg is two thousand years old

This year, the city of Augsburg (West Germany) celebrates its two-thousand-year jubilee. Being one of the oldest cities in Europe, it appeared on the site of a Roman military camp in the year 15 A.D. For a long time it served as the main transportation point in the trade between northern and southern Europe. The ships of trading firms, Pagan and Walter sailed to Moscow and to Byzantium. At present, the city has 280,000 inhabitants.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

LOYALTY TO THE PRINCIPLES OF PEACE

SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA carries a commentary on the 40th anniversary late this April of the San Francisco Conference which adopted the UN Charter. In its work of the UN the USSR has consistently been concerned with the chief problem of today—prevention of war. Some of our country's initiatives were crowned by the adoption of resolutions which served as a starting point for many multilateral accords and treaties, for instance the Treaty on Banning Nuclear Weapons Tests in Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Underwater, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, etc.

In 1982 the USSR undertook an unprecedentedly bold action—unilaterally pledged not to be the first to use nuclear arms and urged other nuclear powers to act accordingly. At the 30th session in the autumn of 1984 the USSR launched new big proposals to prevent the militarization of outer space and the use of space exclusively for the benefit of mankind. This initiative was recognized and supported by practically all UN members. In the year of the 40th anniversary of Victory over fascism and militarism we have every reason to stress that the USSR is loyal to the democratic principles and goals proclaimed at the inception of the UN.

SETBACK FOR THE WHITE HOUSE

PRAVDA writes that the results of voting of the US Congress lower chamber—the House—on appropriations of funds for the Nicaraguan "contra" is a serious reverse for the White House, which is seeking to impede the legitimate government of a sovereign nation.

The psychological attack on Congress, the unprecedented twisting of the legislators' minds and intimidation whereby a "no" vote would be a "contamination" and "betrayal" of the interests of "American democracy," came to nothing.

The House decision reflects profound concern of the wide democratic public over the glaringly aggressive policy of the US administration in Central America. Not for nothing many people in the USA stress the dangerous similarity between the manipulations and dirty tricks resorted to by the present administration and actions by former President Lyndon Johnson, who used lies and demagogic forcing Congress of one time to pass the infamous Tonkin Gulf resolution and thus sanction war against Vietnam, the newspaper points out in conclusion.

NEW OLD PRETORIA'S PLAN

The apartheid regime continues to brush aside the very idea of the participation in any form of the South West African People's Organization (SWAPO) in the settlement of the Namibian problem, although it has been recognized by the UN as the only legitimate representative of the Namibian people, writes a TASS analyst, S. Kulik.

The new neo-colonialist plan of Pretoria is fully identical to the one put forward in 1979 on the prompting of Washington.

That time racist invaders also tried to avoid a true settlement in Namibia by means of including their puppets in the colonial administration. However, this "improved" administration which was supported neither by the Namibian people nor by the world community was dissolved by Pretoria itself, for it was needed no longer.

The announcement of a new plan of Namibia's "self-government" cannot immediately offer a regular trip to Africa of Chester Crocker, US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs. It is evident that the implementation of this plan will permit the USA to increase its capital investments in Namibia and to use it more openly for its own military and strategic purposes.

LIBYA REBUFS AMERICAN BLACKMAIL

A conference of a number of political parties and public organizations of the Arab world, which was held in Tripoli under anti-imperialist slogans, was the immediate cause of a new outburst in the anti-Libyan campaign, ZVVESTIA writes. The current anti-Libyan campaign coincided with the starting of ships of the US Mediterranean Sixth Fleet, the expansion of Israel's bloody repression in the south of Lebanon and the escalation of imperialism's aggressive actions in other parts of the world.

Disclosing the attempts to overthrow Libya's Government, which have become one of the goals of the present US administration, the newspaper points out that the United States tested off methods of exerting pressure on Libya, namely: from economic blockade, threat of American oil operations and a ban on Libyan oil imports to provocative manoeuvres near Libyan frontiers, threats of force and deliberate meddling of conflicts between Libya and its neighbours. But American blackmail was this time, too, firmly rebuffed. Washington's equitable exercise demonstrated for the whole world to see once again its imperialist and racist essence, hostile attitude towards the Arab and other peoples fighting for liberation.

Record-holding tree

There are many trees which hold records of one sort or another. The tallest is the sequoia and the thickest is the baobab. Acacia holds a record in the length of roots. The Tunisian newspaper "L'Action" reports that a huge acacia killed not long ago in southern Africa had roots forty-five metres long.

By balloon

An American Joy Kiltinger plans to make a non-stop flight around the world by balloon and has already started preparing for it. Only several months have

passed since his 44-hour balloon flight across the Atlantic, which can be considered a success though the balloon dropped a tire and Kiltinger had a leg broken. The Associated Press agency reports that as preparation for the flight, the brave aeronaut, who is now 55 years old, flies balloon or plane several times a day within the framework of flying circuits performances in Florida.

Former test-pilot Kiltinger parachuted some years ago from a height of 31,333 metres. He stated that while he is full of strength, he will continue his flights. Presumably the new venture will take him from 10 to 12 days.

VIEWPOINT

Spartak BEGLOV

MOSCOW: ARMS RACE AND DISARMAMENT TALKS ARE INCOMPATIBLE

In deciding to convene the next 27th regular Congress of the CPSU, the Plenary Meeting of the CPSU Central Committee held on April 23, also focused on foreign policy matters. The participants spoke of the complexity of the international situation which demands, like ever before, political will in the interest of peace.

Disputed problems and conflict situations should be solved politically—this is Moscow's firm conviction reiterated in his report at the Meeting by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev. According to his analysis, the tensions and complexity of problems are primarily explained by the fact that definite circles in the USA still want to achieve world domination, primarily in the military field, as well as gain a social revenge at the widest front—both in relation to the socialist community and against the countries liberated from colonialism, the national liberation movements, and the working people in capitalist countries.

Mankind still faces the choice—either more tensions and confrontation or a constructive search for mutual acceptable accords, which would check the process of material preparation for nuclear conflict. The Soviet Union has always considered acceptable only the second alternative and done all it could to consolidate the faith of the in-

ternational community in its eventual realization. The appropriate programme of action has been consistently launched, developed and specified at all the highest CPSU forums in recent years.

The previous 26th Party Congress held in February-March 1981, underscored, as the pivotal direction of Soviet foreign policy, the struggle to lessen the danger of war and curb the arms race. It formulated a set of real implementable measures to curb the danger facing humankind, among them a constructive continuation of Soviet-American talks on limiting strategic arms; a moratorium on deployment in Europe of new medium-range nuclear missiles, and expansion of the zone of confidence-building measures in the military sphere.

In this connection absolutely out of touch with reality are recent statements by the American leadership to the effect that it has "brought the USSR to the negotiating table". Quite the opposite is true. The sole expression of the "cohesiveness" of the US administration was the fact that it has each time responded negatively and with inexplicable haste to concrete Soviet proposals and initiatives. The USSR's unilateral pledge as to be the first to use nuclear weapons has been in force since 1962, and since 1963—its unilateral moratorium on first de-

ployment of anti-satellite weapons in outer space. But no reciprocal goodwill gestures were forthcoming from the USA.

Mikhail Gorbachev recalled the latest Soviet proposal to Washington, i.e. to introduce a total moratorium, for the duration of the Geneva talks, on the development of space arms and to freeze strategic nuclear arsenals. In this spirit the USSR unilaterally declared a moratorium on the deployment of medium-range missiles and on the building up of other Soviet measures taken in response to US missiles deployment in Europe. The new, similarly hasty, and standard aggressive reply by the USA to this goodwill gesture may be only taken to signify a US reluctance to achieve sensible results.

This is confirmed, too, by the first stage of the talks in Geneva, where, as the Soviet leader stressed, Washington altogether refuses to discuss the non-spilling of the arms race into outer space simultaneously (as envisaged by a mutual understanding) with the issues of reducing strategic nuclear arms and medium-range nuclear arms in Europe. Expressing the hope that the current US position will be revised, the Soviet side confirms its resolve to press for concrete and mutually acceptable solutions. At Geneva which would not only help end the arms race but achieve progress in disarmament matters.

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BRIAN HESFORD: DEVOTED TO SOVIET PEOPLE

British composer and organist, Brian Hesford, has devoted his "Requiem" to the memory of Soviet people who died in the Second World War. It was recently premiered in the Soviet Union during guest performances by the musician. It was a great success in Moscow, Kiev and Kharkov.

In my work I wanted to glorify the heroism and courage of those who gave their lives for the deliverance of mankind from the brown plague, fascism, he said. Now, on the eve of the 40th anniversary of Victory, some people in the West are attempting to belittle and distort the role of the Soviet Union in the defeat of Hitler's Germany. When I wrote the "Requiem" I thought of the millions of lives of the Soviet people who ensured victory. I am glad that my new work sounded for the first time in the Soviet Union — the land of great exploits made in the interest of peoples' happiness.

Cycle of Czech music

The name of the Soviet conductor Gennady Rozhdestvensky is well known to audiences. Many programmes performed under his baton open up new and heretofore unknown pages in the art of composers from different countries.

A short while ago, Rozhdestvensky and the Symphony Orchestra of the USSR Ministry of Culture ended the performance of a cycle of all of Haydn's symphonies and of the symphonic pieces by Soviet composers dedicated to Dmitry Shostakovich. The orchestra's new work is a cycle of four concertos, "Borshchevskiy Tsar" and the 20th-Century Czech Music. Most of the pieces in the programme are performed for the first time. The conductor in the programme, like in all the previous ones, is the conductor himself. He tells the audiences interesting facts concerning the music performed and narrates the life story of the composer.

The aim of the cycle is to perform all the symphonies written by Bohuslav Martinu, one of the major talented composers in this century, said Rozhdestvensky. We have also included in the programme music by Czech composers who are his contemporaries and whose music is linked with Russian literature and music. When I first thought of arranging this cycle, I decided to show the deep roots which link the Russian and the Czech music.

Alexandra YEGIAZARYAN

PROFILES

IGOR VASILYEV



highest creative strain. This is, probably, the reason why there are so many portraits of actors, writers, composers and ballet soloists in his studio.

As I perceive music is closer to sculpture than other forms of art though, as it seems, these are two extremes, says Vasilyev.

However, by the internal laws of rhythmical construction they are very close. For me a criterion of a good or bad sculpture is its musicality. Naturally, as every sculptor, I am much interested in the human body. It was compared to the beauty of the body, as it was understood in Ancient Greece, Ancient Egypt, India or

France in the period of Rococo, the archaic Greek and especially Indian plasticity is closer to me. India... how often that ancient country inspired artists! The long-standing interest which Indian philosophy and vivid national culture aroused, assumed concrete forms after the lively impressions from the sculptor's trip round that country. They proved sufficient for many years of work.

In India I tried to see as much as possible, Vasilyev went on to say. I conversed with different people, made sketches of my future works, reamed a lot in its multicolour eddy hazers where one can always see many inter-



The "Latus" sculpture depicting a building in New Delhi.

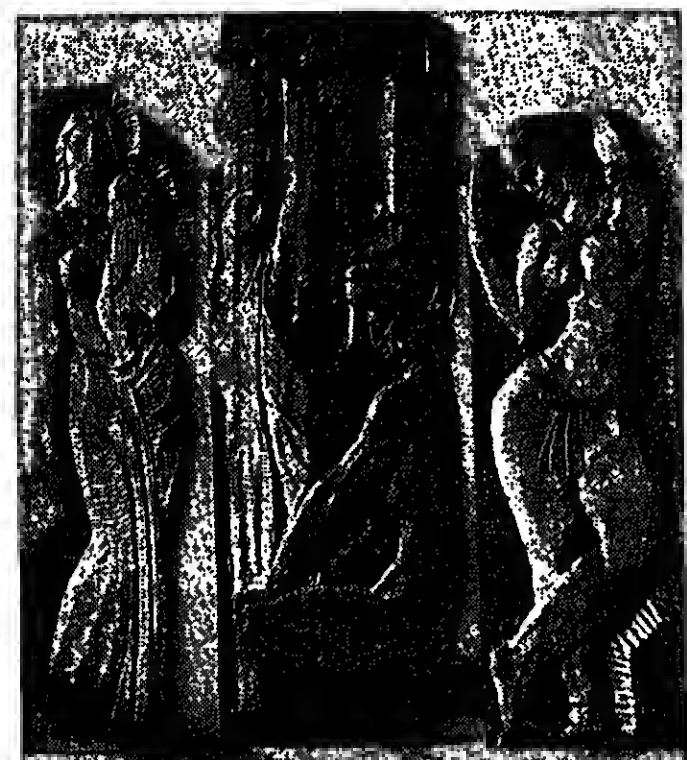
resting and unexpected things. I saw Indian fakirs, serpent dancers, dancing women, priests — they all became the main characters of my sculpture.

Igor Vasilyev's sculptures are deeply emotional. Each work lives its independent life, creating round itself a micro-world filled with the content, the emotion which the artist's hand breathed into it.

We saw the lively portrait of Mahatma Gandhi, the first Prime Minister of the Republic of India, a big triptych "Goda".

Now I. Vasilyev is working on the sculptural portrait of Indira Gandhi, which will be done full-length in bronze, and also as a series of medallions dedicated to the statesmen of that country.

Alexander KHARNOV



The "India" triptych.

FACTS and EVENTS

Years. The Tallis Palestrina opera and ballet company is currently touring Finland. In Tampere and Helsinki the company will show "The Serenade" by Tchaikovsky, Sergei Prokofiev's ballet, "Romeo and Juliet", and Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess" produced by Mikhail Lavrovsky.

Books. A team of scientific workers in the Seltykov-Shchedrin Library has prepared for publication "Library Notes by Velteke". The first volume was printed several years ago by the

Berlin Publishers of the German Democratic Republic's Academy of Sciences. The third volume of this work which has just been published contains Velteke's notes preserved in the books of Descartes, Dante, and Diderot.

Festivals. In Tallis, Mezer's transcription of Handel's pastoral serenade "Acis and Galatea" has been premiered to mark the conclusion of a festival dedicated to the 300th anniversary of the birth of Bach and Handel.

MUSIC CALENDAR

Musyka Publishers have brought out a music calendar "Songs of the Great Patriotic War" in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the Great Victory. It is a synthesis of painting, music and poetry.

Each of the huge sheets of the wall calendar is devoted to a particular stage in the history of the Great Patriotic War.

Its publication continues the popular series of music calendars, started by this publishing house several years ago, including "Portraits of Composers" and "Russian Folk Songs". The 8th International Tchaikovsky Competition will be held in 1986 and a new music calendar devoted to the creative work of the great Russian composer is being prepared for publication. The illustrations — reproductions of paintings, and photographs — deal with the life of Tchaikovsky and his best compositions. Next to the illustrations are the texts telling the history of the great musical compositions.

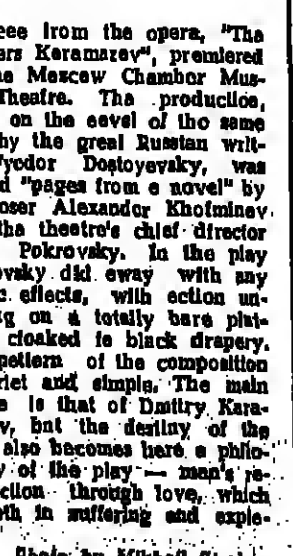


Photo by Mikhail Sirokov

WHAT'S ON!

April 27-29

THEATRES

Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.). 27 — Verdi, "La Traviata" (opera). 28 (mat) — Khrennikov, "Love for Love" (ballet); 28 (eve) — Tchaikovsky, "The Queen of Spades" (opera). Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.). 27 — Mozart, "The Abduction from the Seraglio"; 28 (mat) — Tchaikovsky, "The Snow Maiden" (ballet); 28 (eve) — Verdi, "La Battaglia di Legnano" (opera); 29 — Tchaikovsky, "Swan Lake" (ballet).

Operetta Theatre (8 Pushkinskaya St.). 27 — Gorkhovsky, "Quadrille"; 28 (mat), 29 — "Seven Little Soldiers"; 28 (eve) — Ziv, "Masseurs Artistes"; 29 — Litov, "Sevastopol Waltz".

FILMS

Perestroika (Gorky Film Studio, USSR). About paratroopers of the "Air-Landing Force", about their hard but romantic occupation which demands constant stamina and risk. Cinema "Navosibirsk" (47/29

Tsezarya Kunkova Sq. Metro Kurskaya. Victory Parade (Coloured documentary film studio, USSR). A full-length documentary about the Victory parade in Moscow shot in 1945. Cinema "Rossiya" (12 Pushkinskaya St., Metro Pushkinskaya). 27 — Evening of chamber music by Tchaikovsky and Prokofiev. Jelena Mikhalkova, laureate of an international competition (piano), performs. 28 — Evening of piano music by Beethoven, Schubert, Alexander Malskus, laureate of international competitions (piano), performs.

EXHIBITIONS

Exhibition Hall, 25/26 Arbat Union (46 Gorky St.). An exhibition of works by Moscow artists, members of the people's militia corps during the Great Patriotic War. On display are 100 sketches — episodes of battle, portraits, landscapes. Daily, except Mondays, noon till 7 p.m. Metro Mayakovskaya. Buses 1, 12, 20.

Central House of Art Workers (8 Pushkinskaya St.). An exhibition of works by Moscow artists. Vasily Davydov, painter, shows his "Portrait of a woman" — a work in oil, common title "Portrait of a woman", as well as other paintings and sketches. Daily, except Mondays, noon till 7 p.m. Metro Mayakovskaya.

BUSINESS

'We have a lot to learn from Soviet colleagues...'

A thermal power station Comandante Luis Piedra Blanca is being built in Bahía Blanca, Argentina. With it the installed power will grow by 15 per cent to the province of Buenos Aires.

The thermal power station with two units, each with a capacity of 310 megawatts, was designed by Soviet experts. The USSR supplied Argentina with turbines, generators, transformers and other equipment. Part of the equipment is being produced in Argentina with Soviet technology. The first power unit has been fully assembled and the second will soon be completed.

Turbines and generators are being mounted by Argentine workers and technicians with the assistance of Soviet experts. We have a lot to learn from

New gas pipeline

Work on the construction of a new section of the Soviet Union-Finland gas main has started not far from the city of Kouvola, Finland, at the rocky banks of the Kerri River.

Kalevi Raatikainen, Finland's Minister of the Interior, spoke at the ceremony to mark this event. The new stage in laying the pipeline, he said, convincingly shows the positive knowledge accumulated in 1972-1973 during the construction of the pipeline from the Soviet border to Kouvola. At the same time this project is a concrete example of many-sided and fruitful Soviet-Finnish cooperation, which develops efficiently on the firm foundation of friendship and mutual trust.

Contacts and contracts

© Leningrad's commercial activities have been broadened lately, with Sweden and Norway becoming its new partners. The intergovernmental Soviet-Swedish agreement on coastal trade, signed recently, laid a legal basis for cooperation with that country. As in Norway, it has already staged its first exhibition of export commodities in Leningrad. Leningrad's import has been drawn up so as to meet the requirements of its clients. It buys in Finland various industrial equipment, building materials, light and food industry products and machinery. In its turn, Leningrad supplies to Finland about 300 items produced by Soviet plants.

© The exhibition "Interregional-85" has opened in Dushanbe, capital of Tajikistan. Nearly 40 firms from the GDR, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Italy, the Netherlands, Switzerland, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan and West Berlin participate in it, displaying equipment for the sewing, knitwear and footwear industries.

Airline companies cooperate

It is 20 years now since the establishment of regular air communications between Moscow and Rome. Traffic has steadily increased over the period, amounting to 100,000 passengers last year alone. The geography of services has expanded, too: at present Moscow and Leningrad have regular flights to Rome and Milan and many charter excursion flights.

On the eve of the 20th anniversary an intergovernmental agreement was reached considerably expanding this cooperation. Aeroflot and Alitalia will be able to more fully meet the steadily growing transportation demand and use comfortable wide-bodied planes. Both companies will further cooperate on the Trans-Siberian route between Italy and Japan, which is the shortest and safest route for today. New Alitalia will be able to fly B-747 wide-bodied planes via Scharia.

The successful development of bilateral cooperation relies on considerable measures on the well established business links between Aeroflot and Alitalia, the aviation authorities of both countries, a good knowledge of partners, and mutual respect and trust.

I. PLATONOVA

SECRETS OF RUSSIAN CUISINE

Recently publications director of the Castelli Publishers in Barcelona, Jaume Manuel Martinez visited Kiev, Vilnius, Leningrad and Moscow at the invitation of VAA, the All-Union Copyright Agency.

The publishers specialize in albums devoted to various countries, the world's biggest museums and books, among them a series of the national cuisine of different countries.

A book on Russian cuisine, he said, will supplement the series. The first such edition was based on materials prepared with the participation of Soviet specialists and press photographers. The publication of this book and a photo album devoted to the Soviet Union promp-

ted the current visit. We have already printed the latter and it enjoyed considerable commercial success in Spain and Latin America. The new variant will be increased and improved. We hope that both books will sell well both in Spain and abroad.

Our publishing house is young and we have attended, only as guests, international book fairs outside Spain, yet we do not rule out the possibility of officially attending the Moscow Book Fair this September.

Pavel ZARIFOV

Intourist news

'TO EVERYWHERE FOR STEAM'

In the late '50s steam engines were on the brink of complete disappearance. English admirers of this means of transport founded an association TERS — "To Everywhere for Steam". Its members gather information on steam engines all over the world.

On learning that the Intourist arranges weekly trips to Moscow and Leningrad, 16 members of the association, headed by its director Bill Alborough, have arrived in Moscow.

A journey to the USSR is especially interesting and instructive for us because once the steam engine played a considerable role in Russia, says Bill Alborough.

The Trans-Siberian Railway enjoys world-wide popularity. As to us, we should like to in-

CONCERT HALLS

Leningrad Central Stadium. Palace of Sport (Luzhniki). 27, 28 — Singing devoted to the "All-Union" ensemble. Married masters of sport of the USSR, world and European champions, and champions of the Soviet Union are taking part, among them: Igor Bobrov, Yuri Orlovskiy, Irina Verbovaya, Igor Litovskiy.

For the first time this year three rounds of the cycling race, scheduled for May 6, 10 and 11, will go through Soviet territory.

FOOTBALL

Torpedo Stadium (4 Vostochnaya St.). 28 — Moscow Torpedo vs Rotor-on-Don Army Club. 5 p.m.

RACING

Hippodrome (22 Bagovaya St.). 28 — Racing and trotting. 1 p.m.

WEATHER

April 27-29

SPORTS

CYCLING (TRACK) Track at Krylatskoye (Metro Molodozhnyaya, bus 220). 27 — USSR championship. 11 a.m.

CYCLING (ROAD) 27-29 — All-Union competition in line with the 36th Peace Cycling Race programme. 27 — 120 km road race. 29 — 20 km time-trial. 10 a.m. (both days). Start and finish at

In Moscow, city and region, cloudy, with clear spells and short rains (wet snow possible in places on April 27). Night temperatures of 0°, +2°C (to -2°C in places) and +4°, 6°C during the day, later rising to 11°, 16°C. W and SW wind, 5-10 mps.

According to long-standing statistics, the highest temperature (+23°C) in "Moscow" on April 27, was registered in 1944, while the lowest (-3.1°C) in 1884.



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60 years of friendship



The USSR Ministry of Communications has issued a 13-kopek postage stamp to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries (SSOD). The Union was set up in 1924, but inherited its functions from the All-Union Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries (VOKS). The stamp features the VOKS-SSOD emblem and a commemorative inscription.

Handwritten text in a box: "The USSR Ministry of Communications has issued a 13-kopek postage stamp to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries (SSOD). The Union was set up in 1924, but inherited its functions from the All-Union Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries (VOKS). The stamp features the VOKS-SSOD emblem and a commemorative inscription."